

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-82-73

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility: Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company  
Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
(DN 50-309)  
Wiscasset, Maine

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
X Notification of Unusual Event  
     Alert  
     Site Area Emergency  
     General Emergency  
     Not Applicable

Subject: POSSIBLE INDICATION OF TAMPERING

Debris, including metal chips (apparently lathe turnings), two bolts and two nuts were found in the lube oil system reservoir for the No. 1 Reactor Coolant Pump (RCP) sometime this morning.

The licensee was running the No. 1 RCP lube oil pumps. A manufacturer's technical representative was observing pump operation when he found metal chips at the top of the oil reservoir. Licensee's investigation found about a cupful of chips, two bolts and two nuts inside the oil reservoir. The reservoir had been inspected two days ago during a filter change-out. The chips apparently were not there at the time of this inspection. The licensee investigation continues. There are no indications of debris in the two other RCP oil reservoirs.

The plant is currently shutdown for a refueling outage. During this outage, the reservoir's level indicators were worked. Startup is scheduled for November 21 or 22.

NRC Region I and the licensee are discussing the extent of independent verification of the operability of safety-significant equipment and added security measures. Two Region I investigators have been dispatched to the site.

The State of Maine has been informed. The licensee plans a press release. The NRC does not, but will respond to media inquiries.

NRC Region I (Philadelphia) received notification of this event by telephone from the licensee at 1:05 p.m., November 18, 1982. The licensee declared an Unusual Event at 2:30 p.m., and made ENS notification at 2:53 p.m.

Contact: J. Wiggins                      E. Greenman  
          488-1318                         488-1258

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Licensee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Reactor Licensees)

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